

our opponents to force a general election before then. Having led our party through seven national  
However, as I look to the future, I see the Scottish Election due in 2021 and a credible threat from

successfully in my role as leader.

the flexibility shown by colleagues has allowed me these last months to continue operating  
birth of baby Finn. It made my return to work in April as smooth as I could have hoped and I believe  
wider party enough for the generosity and support you have all shown to Jen and me following the  
The biggest change, of course, has been starting a family. I cannot thank you, Jackson Carlaw and the

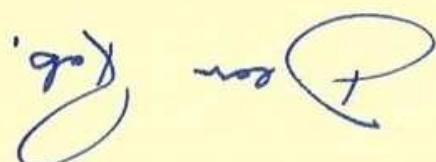
the Scottish Conservatives during this time.

that industries as diverse as our fishing fleets and whisky producers have felt well represented by  
maximise opportunities and mitigate risks for key Scottish businesses and sectors. I hope and believe  
chart a course for our party which recognises and respects the referendum result, while seeking to  
political context. While I have not hidden the conflict I have felt over Brexit, I have attempted to  
inevitably, much has changed over the years of my leadership – both personally and in the wider  
team at central office. For all of this, thank you.

guidance and friendship – along with the hard work and professionalism of the Scottish Conservative  
None of the achievements mentioned above would have been possible without your support,

remains undimmed.

contribution of my working life and my commitment to keeping the United Kingdom together  
in the Scottish independence referendum of 2014. I will always consider that the most important  
successes in recent years. All of that places in significance compared to vital role our party undertook  
Holyrood, Westminster and in council chambers across the country and proud of our electoral  
and important periods of recent Scottish political history. I am proud of the teams we have built in  
party. The almost eight years I've spent at the helm have coincided with one of the most remarkable  
it has been the privilege of my life to serve as the leader of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist



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Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

Chairman

Mr Robert Forman MBE

Leader, Scottish Conservatives

Rt Hon Ruth Davidson MSP

29a August 2019

The Scottish Parliament  
Parlamentaile na h-Alba



RUTH DAVIDSON MSP



Yours sincerely,

While I offer you my resignation as party leader, I intend to continue in my role as the MSP for Edinburgh Central until 2021. I will always be thankful for the opportunity to serve and to the amazing teams I have worked alongside. Be assured I will continue to support the party, the Prime Minister and Scotland's place in the United Kingdom from the backbenches and beyond.

Additionally, I fear that having tried to be a good leader over the years, I have proved a poor daughter, sister, partner and friend. The party and my work has always come first, often at the expense of commitments to loved ones. The arrival of my son means I now make a different choice.

home and family now fills me with dread. That is no way to lead.  
20 months would once have fired me up, the threat of spending hundreds of hours away from my successfully. I have to be honest that where the idea of getting on the road to fight two elections in elections and two referenda, I know the efforts, hours and travel required to fight such campaigns